

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/725,561

Applicant(s)

SIGURJONSSON, GUDMUNDUR  
FERTRAM

Examiner

Kim M. Lewis

Art Unit

3772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/29/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-23 and 29-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached.
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li><li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li><li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li><li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li><li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li><li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li><li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li><li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li></ol> |
|--|--|

Kim M. Lewis  
Primary Examiner  
Au 3772

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Wound dressings are known as demonstrated by the prior art of reference. The closest prior art of record is that of U.S. Patent No. 6,207,875 issued to Lindqvist et al. Lindqvist et al. disclose a wound dressing that anticipates applicant's presently claimed invention. More specifically, as can be seen in Fig. 2, Lindqvist et al. disclose a wound dressing (7) comprising an absorbent core (2') having opposed proximal and distal surfaces and a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel layer (3') disposed along the proximal surface of the absorbent core. The elastomeric gel layer has a plurality of through extending apertures arranged in a pattern, formed by the gel extending into holes (6) in the absorbent core.

2. The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest a wound dressing comprising an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces, the absorbent core including a pattern of holes defined along the proximal surface thereof; and a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel layer disposed along the proximal surface of the absorbent core, said elastomeric gel layer having a plurality of through extending apertures provided in a pattern irrespective of the pattern of holes of the absorbent core, as recited in claim 21..

3. The prior art of record also fails to teach a wound dressing comprising: an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces, the absorbent core including a pattern of holes defined along the proximal surface thereof; and a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel layer disposed along the proximal surface of the

Art Unit: 3772

absorbent core and at least partially filling a plurality of the holes of the absorbent core, said elastomeric gel layer having a plurality of through extending apertures provided in a pattern irrespective of the pattern of holes of the absorbent core, as recited in claim 29.

4. The prior art of record event further fails to teach a wound dressing comprising: an absorbent core having opposed proximal and distal surfaces, the absorbent core including a pattern of holes defined along the proximal surface thereof; and a facing layer consisting a discrete skin adherent, elastomeric gel directly disposed along the proximal surface of the absorbent core, said elastomeric gel layer having a plurality of through extending apertures provided in a pattern irrespective of the pattern of holes of the absorbent core, as recited in claim 31

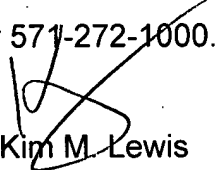
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim M. Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patricia Bianco, can be reached on (571) 272-4940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3772

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Kim M. Lewis  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3772

kml  
February 5, 2007